

R E M A R K S

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), a clean copy of amended claims 1, 5 and 6 is set forth in the present Amendment, and a marked-up version of the amended claims 1, 5 and 6 is attached hereto.

A marked-up copy of page 1 of the specification, showing the changes made, is attached.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



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- 1 -

## DESCRIPTION

## ANEURYSM THERAPEUTIC APPLIANCE

## 5 Technical Field

The present invention relates to a therapeutic appliance suitable for treatment of aneurysms, and particularly, dissecting aortic aneurysms.

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## Background Art

Although aneurysms, and particularly dissecting aortic aneurysms, refer to a state in which an ulceration has occurred in the tunica intima of the aorta, said tunica intima is partially ruptured, blood flows from that site inside the wall of the aorta and said aorta wall is dissected into two layers (the blood pathway that has formed between the blood vessel wall and said separated tunica intima is referred to as a "pseudo cavity", while the space inside the tunica intima which is the inherent blood pathway is referred to as the "true cavity"), if this condition is left untreated, the outer wall of the aorta eventually ruptures leading to death.

25 The method for treating dissecting aortic aneurysms has conventionally only consisted of suturing and closing the ruptured portion of the above tunica intima (referred to as the "entry", while the blood outlet of the "pseudo cavity" is referred to as the "reentry") by surgery as an emergency procedure, or by excising the dissected blood vessel and replacing said excised portion with an artificial blood vessel.

30 However, in the above suturing and closing procedure, due to the fragile nature of the tissue around the entry, the suturing and closing procedure itself is extremely difficult. Moreover, even if suturing and closing

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CLAIMS

1. A therapeutic appliance for treating dissecting aortic aneurysms comprising providing a stretchable bag-like

5 element on and along the end portion of a catheter, said bag-like element being in the form of a flat film when not holding a fluid inside and in the form of a tube when

holding a fluid inside, and the inside film and outside

✓ film that compose said bag-like element are partially *and directly*  
10 joined.

2. The therapeutic appliance according to claim 1,

wherein joining of the films is in the form of a plurality

15 of linearly joined portions parallel to the axis of the

catheter with the exception of the front edge and rear edge of the bag-like element.

3. A therapeutic appliance for treating dissecting aortic aneurysms comprising providing a stretchable bag-like

20 element on and along the end portion of a catheter, said

bag-like element being substantially rectangular, and said

bag-like element being in the form of a flattened film when not holding a fluid inside and in the form of a plate when holding fluid.

4. The therapeutic appliance according to claim 3,

wherein joining of the films is in the form of a plurality

of linearly joined portions parallel to the axis of the

30 catheter with the exception of the front edge and rear edge of the bag-like element.

5. ✓ <sup>claim 3</sup> The therapeutic appliance according to [either of

claims 3 or 4], wherein a spring material that applies force to at least the leading edge and rear edge of the bag-like

35 element so as to wrap around the catheter in the free load

state, is arranged so as to be perpendicular to axis of the

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catheter.

- ✓ 6. The therapeutic appliance according to <sup>claim 1</sup> any of claims 1 to 5 having an additional film on the outside of the bag-like element, said additional film composes a space that allows the holding of fluid inside with the outside film that composes the bag-like element.

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